

From: Benjamin Gronke
To: Ms. Renata Hesse
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

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Ms. Renata Hesse
U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

Ms. Hesse:

I would like to express my support for the revised proposed Final Judgment in the U.S. v. Microsoft case. This lengthy litigation has cost my fellow taxpayers and me more than \$35 million, and after reviewing the terms of this Judgment, final approval is clearly in the public interest.

Perhaps of greatest benefit to the American people, the Department of Justice (DOJ) and the settling states will avoid additional costs and now be able to focus their time and resources on matters of far greater national significance ? the war against terrorism, including homeland security. As noted by District Court Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly, who pushed for a settlement after the attacks of September 11, it is vital for the country to move on from this lawsuit. The parties worked extremely hard to reach this agreement, which has the benefit of taking effect immediately rather than months or years from now when all appeals from continuing the litigation would finally be exhausted.

Prior to the September 11 terrorist attacks, Osama Bin Laden had already carried out numerous attacks against U.S. embassies and military installations. However, prior to September 11, the United States was spending more money chasing Bill Gates than it was chasing Osama Bin Laden. IS IT NOT TRUE THAT BILL GATES GIVES MILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO CHARITY AND OSAMA BIN LADEN IS A TERRORIST? I AM VERY DISAPPOINTED THAT MY GOVERNMENT SPENT MORE MONEY TRYING TO DESTROY BILL GATES THAN IT DID TRYING TO DESTROY A MURDERER NAMED OSAMA BIN LADEN!

Who's more dangerous? A businessman pursuing the American Dream, or a guy that runs a terrorist organization aimed at killing Americans? I think the majority of Americans would agree that a terrorist is more of a threat.

This case was supposedly brought on behalf of American consumers. We have paid the price of litigation through our taxes. Our investment portfolios have taken a hard hit during this battle, and now more than ever, the country needs the economic stability this settlement can provide. This settlement is in the public interest, and I urge the DOJ to submit the revised proposed Final Judgment to the U.S. District Court without change.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Gronke